



## **Problem-Solving Courts Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**May 18, 2007 at 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm**

**Indiana Statehouse, Room 156 A**

#### **I. Welcome**

Judge Shaheed called the meeting to order at approximately 12:45 pm. Members present were Judge Conn, Judge Todd, Judge Blau, Judge Christ-Garcia, Jamie Bergacs, Sheila Hudson and Don Travis. Others present were Cheri Harris, IJC Contract Attorney, and Mary Kay Hudson, Problem-Solving Court Administrator.

#### **II. Review minutes of last meeting –March 16, 2007**

Members reviewed and approved the minutes from the meeting held March 16, 2007.

#### **III. Problem-solving court survey update**

Mary Kay Hudson reported that IJC reissued the January 2007 PSC survey to persons attending the spring Judicial College that had not previously responded. IJC received approximately 90 additional surveys. Mary Kay Hudson provided members an updated copy of the survey results.

Members discussed how to refine the results and to determine how a court qualifies as a problem-solving court. Cheri Harris suggested developing various categories of problem-solving courts, such models guided by statute and models in development. Judge Conn stated that she would be willing to contact other courts to learn more about what they are doing. Sheila Hudson suggested listing the guidelines for each type of problem-solving court and then identifying standards for each guideline. Judge Shaheed tabled the discussion until after the October conference.

#### **IV. Discussion - Problem-solving court workload measures study**

Mary Kay Hudson reported that the Judicial Administration Committee (JAC) is examining workload measures and would like to include a study of problem-solving courts. The JAC has asked that the PSCC define a “problem-solving court” for the purpose of the study. Members determined that the only types of court that they are

willing to identify as problem-solving courts at this time are drug courts and reentry courts. Mary Kay Hudson will report this information to Jeff Bercovitz, IJC staff attorney serving as staff support to the JAC.

V. Reentry court rules workgroup update

- Presentation and discussion of interim rules draft  
Member reviewed and approved the interim rules drafted by the workgroup. Judge Surbeck will present the rules to the board for approval at its June meeting.
- Discussion of timeline for final rules  
The reentry court rules workgroup will discuss and develop the timeline for the final rules at its meeting scheduled on July 13, 2007.

VI. Drug court subcommittee update

- Drug court evaluation project update  
Judge Blau reported that the subcommittee discussed the evaluation results. Subcommittee members discussed the differences in demographics among the study sites, the cost savings per participant and the risk of re-offending. Judge Blau advised committee members that the subcommittee identified the need to clarify table three as it relates to the recidivism rates and cost savings.
- October conference planning update and discussion  
Judge Blau updated members on topics planned for the October conference, including planning and best practices tracks for mental, domestic violence and family dependency courts. Other topics will include plenary sessions on methadone / suboxone treatment, evidence-based practices, and problem-solving justice.

VII. Other Business

Mary Kay Hudson advised members that the IJC received funding in the last legislative session to hire an assistant administrator for problem-solving courts. Ms. Hudson stated that the position would be posted in the coming weeks.

VIII. Schedule next meeting date

August 3, 2007 at 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

IX. Adjourn

Judge Shaheed adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:15 pm.